

MEMORANDUM BY THE DIRECTOR, JOINT STAFF

to the

JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

on

DEVELOPMENT AND REVIEW OF SIOP-63 (U)

1. The purpose of this memorandum is to inform you of:

a. The schedule being followed by the Director, Strategic Target Planning (DSTP) in developing and distributing the Single Integrated Operational Plan - 1963 (SIOP-63).

b. The preparation by the Operations Directorate of the Joint Staff (J-3) of a proposed procedure to be followed by the Joint Chiefs of Staff in accomplishing their review of SIOP-63.

2. On 2 January 1962, the DSTP, by message*, indicated to the Joint Chiefs of Staff that the schedule outlined below would be followed in the development and distribution of SIOP-63:

- a. 9 January 1962 - Commence force application (SAC and POLARIS only).
- b. 27 March 1962 - Commence force application of theater forces.
- c. 30 April 1962 - Complete force application.
- d. 28 May 1962 - Source data complete (all commands).
- e. 11 June 1962 - Brief the Joint Chiefs of Staff.
- f. 25 June 1962 - Distribution of plan (less Appendices to Annexes C and F).
- g. 13 July 1962 - Distribution of Annex F, Appendix I, Strike Sheets, and Annex C, Appendix I.
- h. 1 August 1962 - Effective date JCS SIOP-63.

It is noted that this schedule does not indicate a date for a briefing of the Secretary of Defense on the completed Plan. Proposed arrangements for such briefing will be developed by the J-3 and submitted to the Joint Chiefs of Staff at a later date.

* JSTPS msg to JCS, JPM 0010, DTG 022210Z January 1962 (AF IN 50824); on file in Joint Secretariat

1 DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS
DOD DIR 5200.10

3. Latest indication from the Chief, Joint Chiefs of Staff Liaison Group to the Director, Strategic Target Planning (Chief, JCSLG) is that development of SIOP-63 is proceeding in accordance with the above schedule. Currently, the Chief, JCSLG is planning to brief the Joint Chiefs of Staff during the week of 12 March 1962 on the status of development of SIOP-63.

4. At the time of consideration of review of SIOP-62, the J-3 advanced* a schedule for SIOP-63 which provided for a two-month period of review of SIOP-63 by the Joint Chiefs of Staff following completion of the Plan by the DSTP and prior to its promulgation to the participating commanders for the preparation of their supporting plans. Such a period of review would have been consistent with the procedure prescribed** by the Joint Chiefs of Staff for review of those plans of the commanders of the unified and specified commands which are submitted to the Joint Chiefs of Staff for approval. However, that schedule was contingent on the guidance by the Joint Chiefs of Staff for the development of SIOP reaching the DSTP by 1 August 1961. The SIOP-63 guidance was not promulgated*** by the Joint Chiefs of Staff until 27 October 1961. As a result of the delay of promulgation of the SIOP-63 guidance, there followed the DSTP's schedule for SIOP-63 outlined above. That schedule provides no time for review by the Joint Chiefs of Staff of SIOP-63 following its completion by the DSTP and prior to its promulgation to the participating commanders to permit action on their part necessary to full preparedness for an effective date for the Plan of 1 August 1962.

5. In recognition of the situation described above, the J-3 is preparing, for early consideration by the Joint Chiefs of Staff, a proposed procedure to be followed by the Joint Chiefs of Staff in their review of SIOP-63. It is expected that the J-3 proposal

* Enclosure I to JCS 2056/236

** JCS 1259/474

*** SM-1162-61 dtd 27 Oct 61; see 1st Note to Holders of JCS 2

procedure for review will appear in the buff within the next few days. In essence, it is expected that the J-3 proposal will provide for:

a. A review concurrent with development of the Plan, toward preparing the Joint Chiefs of Staff to take appropriate action when the Plan is submitted to them by the DSTP on about 11 June 1962, as indicated in the DSTP's schedule.

b. A post-completion review directed toward complete understanding and maximum readiness for execution of SIOP-63 - a plan considerably more complex than SIOP-62 - and toward improving subsequent editions of the SIOP.